

In re Appln. of Peter Bongartz et al.
Serial No. 10/680,923
Reply To Office Action Of December 17, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

[0003] To assemble the drive rollers [[40]] 40' onto the spider assembly [[30]] 30', typically both an annular retainer 12 and snap clip 14 are used, as illustrated in FIG. 1. The annular retainer 12 is typically formed with an inside diameter slightly greater than the diameter of trunnion [[36]] 36', so that the annular retainer 12 may be slipped over the trunnion head [[44]] 44' and secured on the trunnion [[36]] 36' with the snap clip 14. The annular retainer in turn secures the needle bearings [[38]] 38' and drive rollers [[40]] 40' on the trunnion [[36]] 36'. The secured snap clip 14 fits partially within the retaining groove 42 on the trunnion [[36]] 36'. The snap clip 14 is typically a coiled wire forming a broken circle which expands as it is forced over the trunnion head [[44]] 44' and into the retaining groove 42. Therefore, the height of the trunnion [[36]] 36' is set by combining the space needed on the trunnion [[36]] 36' to support the needle bearings [[38]] 38', annular retainer 12, and snap clip 14 as well as the trunnion head [[44]] 44'. As it is increasingly desirable to reduce both the weight and size of vehicle components for greater flexibility in packaging as well as improve fuel economy, it is desirable to reduce the size of each component without detracting from durability. It is also desirable to reduce the number of components to be assembled.

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Please replace paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] The housing 20 generally includes circumferentially spaced and longitudinally extending drive channels 24 formed on the interior wall 18 of the housing. The drive channels 24 are typically concentric about the inner wall 18 of the housing and are bounded by concave side walls 22.

Please amend the abstract to read as follows:

~~The present invention relates to~~ A constant velocity (CV) ~~joints~~ joint and, more particularly, ~~[[to]]~~ a retaining ring for a CV ~~joints~~ joint and a method of assembling a retaining ring on a CV joint. The tripod constant velocity joint may be assembled by placing a retaining ring in alignment with a trunnion head, applying a force to the aligned retaining ring to expand the diameter of said retaining ring so that a fracture area on the retaining ring fractures. After the fracture area fractures, the retaining ring is displaced into a retaining groove on the trunnion. The retaining ring includes an outer surface, an inner surface, a first notch extending from one of the inner and outer surfaces to the other of the inner and outer surfaces, and a fracture area extending from the first notch to the other of the inner and outer surfaces.